

Key goals for the Planning Department in calendar year 2005:

Continuing tasks from 2004:

- Develop/adopt a new downtown master plan
- Develop/adopt new standards to further simplify subdivision review process and installation of improvements
- Develop/adopt new design standards to improve appearance of city gateways and major streets
- Develop/adopt design standards for more pedestrian- and transit-friendly new developments
- Develop/adopt new concepts for rural lot subdivisions (simplified cluster and Development Rights Transfer provisions)
- Work with Park Department to implement open space recommendations in Comp Plan
- Work with Urban Development in developing design standards and launching projects for downtown, Antelope Valley, and other redevelopment areas
- Work with Public Works in defining new federally-mandated policies for operations and public involvement in transportation planning
- Work with other GIS users in developing a strategic plan and data/technology migration plan
- Complete inventory of county historic resources
- Implement digital plat submissions
- Continue developing Permits Plus database and applications, including online access for applicants to permit information

Tasks beginning in 2005 (some of which were postponed from 2004):

- Work with Public Works to convert and calibrate traffic model
- Begin process for major update to the Comprehensive Plan/Long Range Transportation Plan
- Work with Public Works in comprehensive review of Startran financing, operations and management
- Work with UNL on update of their master plan
- Begin developing a Southwest Subarea Plan
- Process/adopt code amendments for regulating Group Homes
- Develop/adopt new design standards for signage and lighting
- Work with Public Works to review objectives and standards for arterial access and collector streets
- Develop a pilot neighborhood plan for improving multi-modal transportation options
- Work with Public Works and Urban Development to establish “smart mortgages” for homebuyers living near transit services
- Expand Urban Design Committee review of public projects
- Provide technical assistance to candidates for new state historic rehab incentive program, in city and county
- Work with Health Board and its staff in their review of development policies and standards relating to their jurisdiction of public health and safety

Annual continuing tasks:

- Provide thoughtful, accurate, timely review/processing of development applications
- Review/process Comp Plan amendment requests
- Coordinate preparation of the Capital Improvement Program
- Benchmark Indicators report, with further refinements

“Back-burner” items:

- Relationships between Comp Plan and Human Services goals
- Regional planning initiatives
- Tiger Beetle habitat management plan

Major accomplishments in calendar year 2004:

- Assisted Mayor’s SRT Committee’s work on new revenue sources for transportation funding
- Completed Multi-Modal Transportation Plan through Mayor’s task force
- Adopted new “build-through” regulations for rural subdivisions in 3-mile zoning jurisdiction
- Assisted Mayor’s Development Streamlining Committee in identifying potential areas to simplify processes and reduce timeframes; drafted code amendments for review with development community/scheduled for Planning Commission review in January
- Adopted amendments that strengthen the Neighborhood Design Standards
- Adopted new airport noise study and associated code amendments
- Adopted new regulations for on-site and off-site alcohol sales
- Adopted streamlining amendments to PUD; similar provisions for CUPs scheduled for City Council approval in December
- Drafted code amendments to improve appearance of entryways and major streetscapes, scheduled for Planning Commission review in January
- Completed review and report by Mayor’s Group Homes Task Force
- Developed policies for considering private sewage pump station/force main facilities, approved by Council
- Completed Airport West Subarea Plan; scheduled for Council approval in January
- Launched Permits Plus application tracking system